



ENE433

NeSA-Writing

2015

GRADE 8

Writing

Scoring Guide

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DESCRIPTIVE ESSAY

Purpose

- Portrays people, places, or things with vivid details to help the reader create a mental picture of what is being described
- Involves the reader so that he or she can visualize what or who is being described
- Creates or conveys a dominant impression of what is being described through sensory details
- Can be objective or subjective

Organizational Pattern

- Introduction/Beginning
 - ✓ Establishes the purpose
 - ✓ Sets the tone for the overall impression
 - ✓ May begin with a general statement followed by more specific statements related to the purpose
- Body/Middle
 - ✓ Specific details, examples or reasons
 - ✓ Anecdotes or "narrative chunks" may serve as details or examples
 - ✓ Transitions connect the ideas in a logical way
 - ✓ Transitions assist the flow from paragraph to paragraph
 - ✓ No prescribed number of paragraphs
- Conclusion/End
 - ✓ Gracefully ends the essay
 - ✓ May include a restatement of the writer's opinion or the main idea
 - ✓ May summarize the information given in the body
 - ✓ Reader should have a sense that things are "wrapped up."

Writing Topic

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Ideas / Content

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

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I think many times people underestimate how much experience you can take from middle school. They just believe that middle school is the time when you have no idea who you are and it shows no reflection of who you'll turn out to be. Being a middle schooler, I feel that I don't have any idea of who I am and who I'll be. However, I also feel like I have a better idea of who I am, compared to other students, because of going to football games for my school's filter high school, HHS. One of my favorite gathering places is at Hastings High School football games. The sights, sounds, and feelings I pick up from going to them simply makes my life more exciting. Rows of corn may cover the state of Nebraska, but at HHS football games, there's nothing I see besides rows of people supporting the Tigers and enough craziness to go along with it.

I've been all over the world, but I've never seen a spectacle quite like a HHS football game. First of all, fans roam the stadium, soaking in all of the glorious sights. Students from Hastings High and Hastings Middle school differ extremely at games, but are both there for the same thing; to cheer the Tigers on to victory. Parents wander over to the student section of the wide-range of bleachers to check up on their troublesome children, which by the way, bothers kids very much. Next, the Tigers' battle for victory has many perplexed, while the football team shakes off the endless amount of eyes following them and plays like they have the eye of the tiger. They're dedication inspires young children and middle schoolers to believe in what they want. Lastly, it wouldn't quite be a sporting event without food! Hot chocolate is held in the hands of several people, trying to warm up from the cool, Nebraska wind. Pop and popcorn fill fans' stomachs as the game starts to intensify. The sights of a football game are good enough to make it great, but the sounds make it even more spectacular.

The bang of the drum fills the night air with sounds to strengthen the hearts of many for the furious time of a football game. One reason that those drums play along with the other melodic tunes of the pep band is to make football games fun and jammed with music. Tigerettes, Hastings High's dance team, groove along to songs that create a show of the evening football match-up. Next, a sudden blow of a referee's whistle thrills the crowd to see what he'll say. The words said after the whistle's call could be good, bad, or ugly. For the sake of the referees, I always hope the call will go in HHS's favor. Lastly, HHS students boom with their voices to light up the night. They scream of happiness and anger; always with the best intention of their home school in mind. I've always admired how together the high schoolers become to root for their peers. It gives me a kolidescope of feelings, which happens to be my final biggest contributor to making HHS football games a wonderful meeting place.

My body warms up with emotions as I enter the wildness of a Hastings High School football game, even if it's cold enough to give me frost bite. At first I get overwhelmed with all of the swarming around specators are doing. There's something separate on everyone's hopes of the game, which they try to do most intently. Drama is all around, however, I really just like to be there to guide the tigers on to a "big w", as my father would say. Another sensation that flows to me is just being myself. No one can judge you for what you do at football games if you're having a blast. I love striking on this chance to get away from pretending and letting myself be what it wants to. Finally, whenever I'm at a Hastings High School football game, I feel pride. The high schoolers want you to feel accepted and make you belong. Every person will support the Tigers through a win or a loss. It's nice to be able to find common ground with everyone. No matter what you feel at a HHS football game, "once a tiger, always a tiger", no matter the outcome.

Tiger football games are filled with many sights, sounds, and feelings that make it what it is. Eyes are sure to view some things that they can't anywhere else. Ears erupt with noise of a pleasurable game. Hearts walk away from games feeling fuller than anyone could've ever felt possible. The rush you get at a HHS football game makes people make peace with who they are and what they're going to be. People may say the middle school is when you have no idea who you are or who you'll become, but I doubt that any of them even now know that. There's a future for everyone, and if going to Hastings High School football games can give them a sense of knowledge for that like it does for me, it's a superior meeting place to anywhere I've ever been.

Ideas/Content: 4

4-4-4-4

In this response a clear and vivid picture of the High School football games is described, and the content is well-focused on the thrilling experience and school spirit that the football game elicits as a gathering place. The writer has provided numerous and relevant sensory details that describe the football game experience and why it is so exciting. The writer has provided many vivid examples that enable the reader to clearly understand why the meeting place is so special to the author and its value in feeling part the school community as a whole.

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Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

The creek by my house is the best gathering place I can think of. In my eyes, wildlife is just like people. Almost every animal will gather along the creek. The coons, fish, deer, birds, and other varmints all gather at the little creek by my house. Not only do wildlife come to the creek to gather but so do I. I see the creek as a welcoming to not only me but the animals and the trees.

All of the animals help each other out by providing food for one another. The fish provide coons, birds, and even me a great supply of food. The birds provide coyotes and other predators a good carnivorous diet. The creek also provides a place for trees to live. The trees get their food from the creek and the animals get some of their food from the trees, shrubs, and bushes. The trees provide coons and squirrels a home and throughout the night and day it provides those animals a place to have a family gathering just like a grandmother's house on Thanksgiving.

When it comes to hunting season in the winter, many people use the creek as a gathering place but in a unique way. People from all over come to hunt venison. The timer is a big gathering place just as if a holiday was going on. It makes people happy but so are the deer because it is their mating season. This time of the year is usually a cheerful time because it normally snows and all the little animals and birds play in the snow.

The creek is like a dinner table in the early morning. All the animals come for a drink from their long night sleep. The fish are feeding off the top of the water looking for small bits of food and the deer come to get a drink to prepare for their long journey for the day. The birds are looking for a nice juicy worm or a big fat chub to snatch ahold of. The creek is a very peaceful place to be during the morning because of all the small sounds that are going on. You'll hear a cardinal singing a song or a squirrel cracking a nut on a log. The soothing sound of flowing water also makes the creek a great place to get away from all your troubles and thoughts.

After a good hard shower the creek may not be the safest place for all the little animals and birds because of the high, fast moving current. It's not the best place to gather along for animals when it rains but it is for me. The smell of a fresh rain can almost bring a tear to the eye. It is hard to believe that a smell can make you calm and feel soothing but fresh rain and the sound of the hard current makes me feel good. Its is almost like I am part of the creek itself.

The creek is the heart of nature. It is not only a home but it is a gathering place. Even if it really isn't, it is to me. The creek may not be a gathering place for other people but it is for me and all of the rest of nature. It is the most calming and still-life place but it is really enjoyable no matter what you are doing there. It is a safe place for all the animals and me. The creek is a great place for animals to gather and interact as a family.

Ideas/Content: 4

4-4-4-4

In this response a clear and vivid picture of a creek has been described. The content is well-focused on the topic and the reader clearly understands why the creek is so unique and important to the writer and to the wildlife that live there. Numerous sensory details are used to describe the creek as a gathering place for the various animals.

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Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Living Room

The room that I like the most in my house is where people in my family gather the most. This room is a place where I indulge my senses everyday. This room is the place I feel the most comfortable in. The room that I'm talking about is my families living room.

When I walk into this room I stare mesmerized at the sights on the tv. My living room has a large window facing outside where I can take a glance at the outside world when I'm bored. The living room also includes a hazel colored couch and loveseat. My favorite place in the room to sit at is the maroon colored chair in the corner that may be horrendous to look at. We also have a few lamps in the corners of my rather tiny living room, but what really brings people into the room is the 52 inch tv in the corner. This tv is the humongous window into the world of sports, movies, and shows. This is what truly brings people to the living room, and one of the reasons my family isn't always fighting.

Along with the things I can see in my living room is the ear piercing noise that occasionally crawls out of it. I always remember the loud boos, gasps, and sometimes swearing as my family watches a sports event. There is also the rickety fan on the ceiling that wirs around in a continuous circle. It sometimes looking like it might fall through the ceiling and fly out the window with a loud CRASH. I always find comfort in the chortles and chuckles from my family as they watch a cheesy comedy. Last, is the deafaning sound of scratchy music as my cousins play annoying childrens music on the stario.

I always find comfort in my living room even though the couch is ancient and the chair is ugly. I always like the feeling of just sinking into the chair and just imagining it as a plush cloud. Even though I can always find z's in my chair my family members always brush past my feet. The living room always has the seemingly perfect temperature in my house, but my family still screams at me when I fall asleep because of the perfect climate in the living room.

Even though the living room isn't a kitchen we still act like it is. You can just about always smell something in this room whether it is a turkey dinner (true story) or a ham sandwich. My mother still becomes angry when she finds crumbs embeded deep within a sofa cushion. What is weird is that even though we are in the living room so much it still smells dusty and putrid at times. I also love the tastes I experience in the living room. Like the tasty yet sticky benut butter sandwhich. There's also the savory and delicious steak that I've even had in the living room.

Now, you know that my living room isn't just a room it is half of my families lifestyles. Without out this room my family wouldn't know where to eat, sleep, and scream at the tv. This is why the living room is the place where my family likes to gather the most.

3-3-4-3

Ideas/Content: 3

A clear and adequate picture of a living room has been described in this response. While the sensory details provided in the description are relevant, they are not numerous. The content is generally focused on the topic and the reader somewhat understands why the living room is a good gathering place for a family. More details are needed in order to provide a clearer more vivid description of the room.

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Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

The mall is the place where everyone's gathering together. You hear baby's crying, children screaming and you hear variety of other things going on. The mall is where friends and families hang out at to go shopping or just to spend quality of time together. There're many things to do at the mall and many stores to look at. When you're not paying attention sometimes you'll get pushed by other people because at times the mall gets overwhelming. You'll see different races and ages there. Also, you will come across people trying to advertise what they're selling.

Whenever I go to the mall I see many different stores surrounding me. The stores at the mall are about ten feet tall. I mostly shop at Forever twenty-one, Wet Seal, Hot Topic, etc. All the stores I go to are always crowded with people in them. It has never got to a point where anyone had to wait to go in the store. Only time that happens is when there's a holiday coming up. All stores have many things inside them to look at whether it's clothes, toys, etc.

The mall has a Food Court for people to buy food. They have tables and chairs for people to sit on and eat just in case they want to shop more. They have different types of food such as Greek food, Chinese food, and variety of fast food restaurants. Through-out the mall you can sense all the different types of food they're making. Sometimes you can smell it from the lower level part of the mall. There's always people eating at the Food Court. The smell makes you hungry at times which causes you to want some food.

Finally, they have a playground area for children to play in. It's a smart thing to do at the mall because then parents won't have to stress out with their kids screaming around or crying. The play ground area is always the loudest when you go to the mall. You always see children running around playing with each other. The play ground has sports things in it like a football shaped slide and other different things. It's an amazing place to take your kids to when they get annoyed of shopping. Not every mall has a play ground for kids to play in so I think that's unique.

In conclusion, the mall is a fun place to go to together as a group of friends or family. There's many things you'll come across. There's so many things to look at but you don't get to see them all at times. Although there might be kids screaming and crying you'll still enjoy your time at the mall. It's always fun whether you're shopping or hanging out. At the end of the day you'll have fun going there. The mall can never get old.

Ideas/Content: 3

3-3-3-3

The picture of what is being described is generally clear in this response about the mall. The content is generally focused on the topic and the sensory details describing the mall are adequate and related, but not numerous. The writer has adequately described reasons why the mall is an important gathering place for friends or family.

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Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Where We Meet

My friends' and I's most favorite place to meet to, figure things out or work on a project, is one of our houses because of the size of the house, the different rooms in the house, and the snack choices we have. The size of the house is better when it is big because we can do more and will have more room to do stuff. We need more room because if we are doing a project for school then we need a bigger space to lay things out and get organized. A smaller room would not be as good because we could be cramped and not have much room to do anything.

Also a good factor of a house is the different rooms it has. If there are different rooms then my friends and I would be able to do more activities at a time. As to if there was only one room then we wouldn't get to do a lot of activities. A one room house would not be good at all because there would not be any room for people to do anything. The many different rooms a house can contain can be a bathroom, a kitchen, a living room, a few bedrooms, and a dining room.

The last reason why I like going to houses for activities or projects is because of the snacks we get. Sometimes we could get a big snack and other times we would get a smaller snack. I don't usually like getting bigger snacks because I feel bad for taking their food even if they do give me permission. My favorite snack is string cheese so I usually ask for string cheese when we get an option for a snack. Most of the time we do get a choice of snack. The size, the different rooms, and the snack choices are obviously why I enjoy meeting at houses with my friends.

Ideas/Content: 2

2-2-2-3

The picture of what is being described is limited in this response about the writer's or a friend's house. The sensory details used to describe the houses are missing and the description is incomplete and unclear. The content is limited and ideas lack sufficient development in order to present a clearer picture to the reader. While the reader gets a sense of why the homes are good gathering places for the writer and his friends, more development of ideas and a more detailed description would be needed for a higher score.

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Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Where do people gather for fun or not? What do they do there? What do you see smell, hear, feel, and taste?

The pool is were people go. They swim, I hear people laghing and haveing a great time. I smell cloring or clean water, I see people splashing, swimming, sitting, playing, and haveing fun. You can get some things to eat there small like a popsicle, chips, nochos, snowcones, icecream and candy like candy bars. I feel happy that im there and that my friends are to but after a wile of swimming you get tired, sleepy, hungry, crampssore arms and legs, and can even get sunburnt.

Even though you can get that its all worth it to go have a great time with friends and family many people go swimming and you should to. Swimming is the main thing people do in the summer. In fact thousands of people go each year. Even if you dont no how to swim there are swimming lessons you can take and you will learn how to swim in no time so i advise you to go swimming.

Ideas/Content: 2

2-2-2-2

A limited picture of a pool has been described in this response. While an attempt to describe the swimming pool has been made, the sensory details are few and limited and the content is not adequately developed. The description is incomplete and the writer has somewhat failed to show the significance of this place as a gathering place.

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Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

People Gather at the park and in at there houses. Theres a lot of places to gather in Hastings.If i had to go some where I would go to the park. I like there grand Island you can go to grand Island and go to diffrent stores. My sights are that it is beatifull at dark and when all the lights are on. Its a great view to see that when the lights are on. The smell is ferouble in grandisland I cant stand to smell that smell it smeels like roten fish.What I taste is fish from the air on the dust from the factorie. when i step out side i hear cars and there engine running. When I feel out side or in grand Island. My experinces were good to see my famile there.

I like to go to other places like tennesey but i cant go. from hasting to tennesey is way to far but i want to see wat tessesy is like there I want to see if it is any fun to be there.

Ideas/Content: 1

1-1-2-1

The picture of what is being described is unclear in this response. The writer has failed to focus on a specific topic or place and the content seems to have many digressions. The content lacks development of any ideas or description, and sensory details are limited. The reader has little understanding as to what this gathering place is and why it was chosen by the writer.

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People gather at the mall alot and just shop why they are there.They like clothes so they would like gathering there to look around.There are proz and conz about gathering at the mall.A bad thing is they could try to shoplift and get in big trouble.They could also just vandilize the mall also.

Ideas/Content: 1

1-1-1-1

In this very brief response about the mall, the picture of what is being described is unclear. The content lacks development of any ideas, and sensory details are lacking.

Organization

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One Fantastic Field

Crack! An athletic softball player smacks the ball into right field! The beloved "crack of the bat" is one of the best sounds any softball lover can hear. One of my favorite places to experience that sound and to play softball is at Smith Softball Complex in Hastings, NE. Thousands of fans and players gather at Smith each season to watch, play, and/or umpire softball. The biggest event of the year held there is when people from all over Nebraska come for the NSAA State Softball Tournament in the fall. Some of the best parts about the complex are the sights, sounds, and feelings that I experience around that time of year. Smith Softball Complex is one of my favorite places where people gather because of all the fantastic memories I have from being there. One of the things that sets Smith above all other complexes, is the sights it has to offer.

To begin, the sights at Smith Softball Complex are something that only a few can realize the true beauty of. The strong, hard working players are always making outstanding catches, dives, and pitches. They all possess ratted, helmet-hair and tomato red sunburned cheeks. The players' pants have many layers of chalk, dirt, and the occasional blood stains to show how much they fight each and every game. The intense coaches are sometimes angry enough to have veins popping out of their necks and fiery faces full of fury towards umpires and opposing coaches. Fans create seas of each and every color around all eight of the fields in the stands. There's nothing like the sights you can experience at Smith Softball Complex during the high school state tournament, but the sounds are remarkable too.

In addition, I can hear the sound of state softball at Smith from a mile away. At the beginning of each day of the tournament, they play the National Anthem to honor America. I think it's kind of neat to see because all eight fields do it at the same time. After the anthem, the teams start doing their pregame cheers to get pumped up for the competition. The fans roar as each team sprints out of their dug-outs and onto the field. Throughout the games, the crack of aluminum bats can be heard from every place in the complex. There's never a moment when the ongoing cheers from players stop. Some of the cheers and chants are extremely catchy and get stuck in your head and drive you bonkers! I can always tell when something exciting happens because there's a huge outburst of cheers from that field. Although the sounds of Smith Softball Complex during state are important, the best part is the feelings.

The feelings at Smith can be anywhere from extreme nerves, to relief. Before games, players and coaches experience overwhelming butterflies floating in their stomachs. The atmosphere is so exciting, that even spectators' hearts pound during the games. When a home run soars over the fence, the supporting side of bleachers shakes and vibrates from all of the shouting. The feeling is just so special and amazing. Sweat drips down my forehead as the games go on and if the game ends in a victory there's a sigh of relief and all of the jitters go away. However, losses are devastating and exhausting because a loss could mean that the season is over. The feelings of being at the NSAA State Softball Tournament are insane and very unique.

Smith Softball Complex is one of my favorite places to gather with people who are softball lovers like me during the high school state tournament. The sights of the complex are fun to experience and take in. The sounds are sometimes overwhelming, but exciting at the same time. The feelings at Smith are the best part because they make my heart race just thinking about them. I love going to Smith Softball Complex because of all the great memories I have had from being there. I don't think I'll ever experience anything like Smith Softball Complex again in my life.

Organization: 4

4-4-4-4

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is effective in this response about a softball complex. An effective introduction along with well-planned transitional phrases at the end of each paragraph, effectively connect the main ideas together. Pacing is well controlled throughout the response, as each idea leads smoothly to the next in a logical, flowing progression of ideas. Paragraphing is sound.

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Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

I pull my key out of the ignition and I get out of my car. As I approach the door I am bombarded with the smell of some kind of food. The door swings open and I am greeted with a hug from my grandmother who has obviously been cooking all day. I climb up the stairs and can tell that the rest of my family is upstairs and watching a football game. When I reach the top of the steps most everyone says hi and I get a few hugs and the focus is back on the game. Everybody has a place where they gather as a family. In every home there are specific smells, sounds, sights, and feelings you get when you are in it, and that is what makes it unique.

To begin there are many sights and sounds in my grandparent's house. The house itself is a modest home. It has two levels an upstairs and a downstairs, containing lots of oversized furniture that seem to be too big for the rooms. A large table takes up the entire dinning room; but it does seat all 10 of our family members. There always is some kind of noise, sometimes it is music other times it is the television. If it happens to be music it is very soft and relaxing, but if it is the television it is an old show or an old western movie. I can't forget football which always ends up on the screen eventually no matter what.

Walking into the house a number of feelings overwhelm me. It always seems warm literally it's 80 degrees at all times. I feel invited when I am inside, like they want me there with them. The house feels safe with my family around. Nothing too terrible could happen. Also it is just a happy environment; we all get along and love one another very much. We as a family only want the best outcomes in life. Being a close knit family makes us stick together because of our struggles he have went through together in the past. For those reasons I feel loved when I am there.

Lastly the smells and tastes are always wonderful. No matter what there is always some kind of meat cooking. It makes your mouth water every time and tastes great. Whether it is on the grill or in the oven it is cooking. My family also loves to bake, especially my grandmother, we know we will get some kind of dessert. It could be cookies, pie, cake or even brownies. The smell scrumptious, and tastes divine. On lucky days she makes an array of desserts. My grandmother's house is overly clean. You can almost smell how clean it is. The counters smell like lemon. They smell so much like lemon bars, I almost want to take a bite. In all the smells and taste make the house complete.

The smells, sights, sounds, and feelings that make my grandmother's house itself. Where do you normally get together with family? My grandfather calls "dinner is ready" and we head into the dinning room to sit down. I look around and realize all the things that make this house so special. The smells, the family, and the sounds are perfect examples of why this place is so special to me.

Organization: 4

3-4-3-4

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is effective in this response about the writer's grandparents' house. Pacing is well-controlled throughout the response as each idea moves to the next in a logical progression of ideas. Transitions effectively show how ideas connect and the paragraphing is sound.

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Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

A Hot Topic

There are a lot of places where people can gather whether it's at school, church, a gym or even your own house! Another place that people gather is a mall or one specific store inside of it. One question that you may be asking yourself is why would people come and meet at a mall? I gather at the mall for several different reasons even if I go there once a month! Sometimes I wonder from store to store trying to find a new outfit or to just see what's new. Even if you just sit down for a minute on a nice and comfy bench you can figure out why tons of people meet there.

One reason that I go to the mall is to get new things to wear or play at several different crowded stores. When I walk in to the mall or a store during the summer I'm usually hit directly in the face with a cold blast of air to cool me down. During the winter, I'm smacked in the face with the hot air that has surrounded the atmosphere of the store to help me keep warm and comfy. My two favorite stores that I always go in when I'm there is Hot Topic or Gamestop. I dive straight through the doors and into the games section when I'm at Gamestop. It's always exciting to see what new games they have there for me all packaged up and ready to play when I get home! I only get one or two games when I see some that I like, so I still have some money left to go to Hot Topic or Journey's! Hot Topic always has new merchandise of my favorite bands, popular books, and the best movies or shows. Rarely, I head into Journey's, only to get a pair of shoes which are usually the brand named Converse. Whenever I leave one of those store's though I make sure that I have something new to share or show off.

Another reason I go to the mall is to hang out with my friends. Usually, I'm the one that calls everybody and tries to figure out a date when everyone is free and can go! Sometimes the date that we have chosen works and sometimes it doesn't because we are all busy on the weekends when school begins. It's always exciting to go with my friends to see what we're going to do when we get there. Only several of us buy things because we are having so much fun looking and wondering around the mall. We go into every single store that we lay eyes on. Even though we get those weird looks from people when we are laughing and messing around with each other, none of us really mind because we know we're all a pretty weird group of teenagers.

The last reason that I go to the mall is for fundraisers or to try and get donations for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. I'm alone most of the time or with my mom struggling for people to get donations to try and find a cure. Most people stop by and give us several dollars sometimes it's even twenty-five dollars or more. I'm was about ready to pass out when one guy gave us one-hundred dollars! During the winter or Christmas time there is some people that are trying to get donations for the Army or trying to get some money for cancer. I don't go during that time because they were there first and they need money to try and find a cure also!

There are tons of different reasons why people meet at the mall whether it's for fun or having a simple fundraiser. I hope that if you need a place to hold a fundraiser, meet with friends, eat a meal or just wonder around that you go to a mall with a big smile on your face. Hopefully this also answered your question of why people meet here too!

Organization: 3

3-3-3-4

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is functional in this response about the mall. Pacing is generally controlled and the transitions are functional and adequate, but not effective. Paragraphing is generally successful but a somewhat weaker conclusion that fails to mention one of the three main ideas and seems to introduce new ideas is evident.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

When my family and friends plan to gather. We all go to my house. My house is the most common place where anyone in my family could find. When the visitors come they pass by the kitchen, dining room, and the living room. My house have everything that we need.

One of the places in the house the visitors gather in the kitchen. The first thing the smell is the snacks for everyone. Sometimes when she do snacks it is mostly a sandwich. With some fresh lettuce, ham, and American chesse. The visitors gather up to help my mother for the snacks. Something that they help with is the stove. The stove is black like black berry, it is also three to four feet long. The oven is under all of the spices and the emergency lamp. Another reason they help out is the dishes that is on top of the sink. The sink is silver as iron. The handles are colored code from the bottom and black like the dark. Another reason is that the visitors help out with the refrigerator, by taking out the lettuce tomatos and the other ingredient. The refrigerator is close to six feet high and four feet wide. It is white like snow and it it flooded with notes and unique magnets. When the visitors are done helping done helping they take out the food into the dinning room.

The second place that visitor goes to, is the dinning room. In the living room it always smell like cinnamon with apples. The wall in the dinning room is a dark red color like red violet and bumpy. Hanging on the wall is the dark black TV. The TV is twelve inches high and twenty-four inchs wide. The screen is wide black when it is off. Another object in there is the table. The table is a light coffee brown which it sometimes smell like coffee because every one in the house drinks coffee. The table is also an ovel shape. The table is close to three to four feet tall. On the side of the tables are the chairs. The flat horizontal part of the chair is a dark bananna color. The vertical and the legs are a heavy coffee brown. Once when the visitors are done eating and talking sometimes they move to the living room.

The third place of the house that the visitors go to is the living room. An object in the living room is the sofa. The sofa is a human size It is about six feet and fize inches wide. The sofa is about three feet tall. The sofa is in front of the window. Across from the window is the desk that is under the desk top. The desk is three to four feet tall. The horizontal parts of the desk is black like coal. All the vertical parts and the feet are silver like iron. On top of the desk is the old desk top. The screen is a shape os a perfect square. With four right angle. On the right side are the speakers. Where we play music while we sing and maybe while the visitors leave.

My house have everything that we need. Food, tv, cumputer, a stove and refrigerator. My house is the most common place where my family and friends can find. So my house is where my family and friends gather together.

Organization: 3

3-3-3-2

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is functional in this response about the writer's house. Functional transitions are adequate but not effective. Pacing is generally controlled and paragraphing is generally successful.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

The Magic Behind Stage

Do you want to know how rushed you are at a dance recital? It is one of the most exciting times, but you're also all over the place freaking out. All of your nerves are scattered and going bizarre. The one thing you want is to just go out there and do your best. You are in the moment and focused on performing with your heart.

All of us performers are rushing around back stage rehearsing every step. Trying to perfect it the best we can before our number is called. Sometimes the numbers we are in are back to back. So then we have to do quick changes, in seconds before we go out again. Pulling it off is quite a difficulty. We all work together as a family to keep our nerves calm, so that we can go out and perform with courage.

Every single girls stomach their is flipped upside down. She fears of falling on stage or getting off track with the counts. Scared to disappoint her family. When all we should be is worried about not having fun on stage. Nobody understands the magic behind stage.

Organization: 2

2-2-2-3

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is limited in this response about being backstage. Pacing is inconsistent and weak or missing transitions do not adequately connect the ideas together. Paragraphing is somewhat ineffective as the entire response seems to be about the same single idea with a brief introduction and a weak conclusion.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Skating

A place my friends and I gather at is the skating rink. Listening to music, skating, and talking are three of the most common activities we do.

One thing we do is listen to music. Some of us like listening to Pop. Others like listening to Country. Rap is another genre people like listening to. My personal favorite is rap because i like how the sound and the rhythm pulses through your body like its a heart about to explode.

Skating is also something fun we all do together. When I skate the wind runs its fingers through my hair. My heart is pulsing fast as the energy kicks in. I feel like i'm a bird flying through the air with its flock. Everything around me dissapears as i soar through the rink.

The other thing we do a lot while we are skating is talk. It's a very good place to socialize. As you talk you can barely hear the person next to you because the music is so loud. All around there is people sitting down or skating. Some peoples shirts are glowing and the walls are glowing. While you are talking all you can smell is pickles and nachos. If you suck in the air you can almost taste all of the sweat.

Obviously, you can tell my friends and I love to skate.

Organization: 2

2-2-3-2

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is limited in this response about a skating rink. While a basic functional organizational structure seems to have been adopted, the introductory transitions are weak or missing, and each of the three main body paragraphs is a list of ideas with few if any transitions connecting the ideas. Pacing is inconsistent and paragraphing is irregular as the content that supports each of the three main ideas is often somewhat unrelated or contradictory to the main ideas. A weak conclusion is evident.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

A place me in my family gather at well me in my gather at the living room for CHRISTMAS:) We gather their because thats were it has always been. the sight i see are big nice boxes presents the sound i hear is the sound of my sister I ripping the presents open. the feeling of the presents are makeing me think of the stuff i got now. but the feeling of dre beats fill so nice because there soft loud they make me fill rich.the smell of the nice big box make are the best smell in the world.the taste of christmas dinner is so good my dad and mom makes the best dinner. the picture i see now of my dad giving me the dre beats is going to be great in i say that because i been asking for them sense they came out but the best thing to have is a tablet because u can do more than just play games u can have the story book app in it can be for school to but when i get my stuff i will always take care of it another thing about christmas is about not only presents but the joy of god in how he save are souls merry christmas in have a wonderful 2014 :)

Organization: 1

1-1-1-1

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is lacking in this response about the living room at Christmas. Transitions connecting ideas are lacking. Pacing is awkward, and paragraphing is missing. A weak ending with no conclusion is evident.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

I gather in front of the tv in my warm home in a soft chair in front of the loud bright tv . And eat a warm slice of pizza that tastes like a hamburger while sitting in front of the tv with pizza breath . And all the sound are from the tv with the show duck dynasty on it .

Organization: 1

2-1-2-1

The structural development of an introduction, body, and conclusion is lacking in this brief response about gathering in front of the television. This minimal response has little or no evidence of any organizational structure. Paragraphing and transitions are missing and connections are unclear.

Voice / Word Choice

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Movie Theatre

"Did you hear what that clown said about me!" Sassed the dramatic blonde to her friends.

"Yes Mary I'll get the tickets." The passing man confirmed on his cellphone.

"But daddy I want to see that movie!" Pleaded the redhead toddler being dragged by a grumbling father.

"Thank you, enjoy the show." A rehearsed smiling face called, after putting the money in the cash register.

So many voices, so many people. A movie theatre is one the best places for people to gather. Whether your enjoying a family outing, hanging with friends, or maybe having a one person party. Its the one place where you dont have to be yourself, you can look through someone else's eyes, and see their adventure.

WHAM! Your blasted away with the mouth watering scent of sweet butter and freshly popped popcorn as you walk through the doors. You are a one man, or woman party and dieting isn't on your priority list. You move on over to the back of the line, patiently waiting your turn for your ticket. After winding through the obstacles of red velvet ropes like a snake, a employee calls you over. He greets you happily, and shows on a luminous screen the available seats. You eagerly pick a middle seat, and he hands you a white strip of paper with your row and seat number. You turn and inch your way into the main section. Your breath catches in your throat, you gasp at the beauty and the hugeness of the dome that surrounds everything. Intricate random paintings splatter the ceiling, telling a silent story all by itself. Giant, delicately carved sandy colored, Egyption themed columns stand proudly holding the dome securely on their shoulders.

Hastily, you make your way to the consessions, you scan the option board, not sure what you want. The warm breath of slightly browned, salted pretzals coaxes you in, but your attention is ripped away by the screaming of the popping corn kernals. A slushie also sounds good, you think to yourself, but the people behind you are noticably getting grumpy, so you decide to buy popcorn, candy and a soda. Your movie will be starting soon, so you quickly pull out a crinkled twenty and slighty torn ten dollar bill. when the worker asks, you order your popcorn, extra buttery, a pack of twizzlers and a large fountain drink. You pay her the amount and wait for your Items. Grabbing your delicious snacks you fill your cup with fizzing root beer and head towards Theatre 16.

Crowds of people block your way, swerving through them, you mumble your apologies and head to your theatre. The hallway is pitch black, only the rope lights guide you on your way, you manuever your popcorn and drink to a more comfortable position and stuff your Twizzler package in your pocket. With your free hand you fumble in your other pocket, fishing for your ticket. Pulling it out you study it for a few seconds and look at the letter labeled seat rows. Heading for row D, you sit in your middle, number 15 seat. You set your drink in the cup holder, and click the buttons to recline your pink electric leather sofa seat. Your movie begins, and the surround sound is amazing. The screen is enourmous, and the explosions from your action packed thriller look real. You barely noticed when your movie came to an end, and when you did you left energized, wanting more.

Movie Theatre's are extrodinary places where people like to meet up and chill while enjoying a great movie. The Star Cinema Theatre is one of my favorite places to go, and is always crowded with people. Even the people who work there are always nice and respectful, and help you when needed. The food is usually fresh and the movie screens are gigantic. The movies are my favorite places to go where people gather.

Voice/Word Choice: 4

4-4-4-4

In this response about the movie theater, the wording is expressive and engaging, conveying a strong sense of the writer throughout the essay. Numerous vivid words and phrases are used effectively to describe the movie-going experience, and the reader clearly understands why the theater is an important gathering place for the writer. The strong voice is well-suited for the purpose and audience, and the descriptive language is specific, precise and varied throughout the response.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

There are many places I love to gather with friends and just spend time by myself, and that is the Fallbrook YMCA. I will tell you all about the amazing enjoyable things to do at the YMCA. First of all there is a super nice court, and the hoops almost seem brand new! Also there is an amazing pool with a really soothing hottub. And lastly there is an amazing spacious weight room up stairs. The YMCA is a great place to spend time with family and friends, and a great place to blow off steam.

The first thing I'm going to talk about is my favorite the gym. As you walk in the gym you hear balls bouncing everywhere, balls off the wall, balls flying off the rim. And you hear the argument of a player complaining to the ref on how he lost. To me this is relaxing, I love being in the gym working on my game! Basketball is my favorite sport, so the gym is just like my second home. And if you're lucky you get to see college players throwing up alley oops and dunking like crazy! My main goal someday is to be able to slam the basketball! But theres always a reak smell of sweat in the gym that you can not ignore. Hearing the sound of fresh new squicky shoes on the court brings music to my ears! If you ask me the gym is the best of the best!

Although the gym is a great place to be, the weight room is just as amazing! I love working hard trying to get spectacular results on my body! Lifting is something I do everyday, i love staying on my grind trying to be the best I can possibly be. If it wasan't for the buff body builders up in the weight room pumping iron, I dont know if i'd have the motovation to work so hard! As much as I love lifting and getting built, I hate seeing the sweat all over the machines before I use them. Another thing that bothers me is all the stank left up in the air just floating around waiting to attack innocent people. Even tho there is stuff I dont like, the weight room is a great place to be and it does amazing things to your body that nothing else can! And after a hard lift try a protein shake or my favorite a muscle milk! It will help the increase of muscle, just saying i'd drink it!

After a long stressful day of work, being in the gym, and lifting, take a relaxing dip in the pool and hottub! The jets will blow all your problems away, just step in and let the tub do the rest! Imagine having steam bubbles nail you in the back with your eyes closed and you hear the flow of water bouncing off your chest. And after all the heat take a nice relaxing dive into the perfect pool temperature! The southing water will cool your body from that amazing stress remover known as the hottub. And if you wanna just have fun and be a kid again, go down the slides, play with toys, get introuble! You can do it all at the YMCA!

Now that you went on an amazing journey through the spectacular YMCA, Now do you believe me that this is a perfect place to spend family and friend time? There is no better place than the YMCA, also known as the amazing stress remover! Remember this, the gym is a great place to work on your game. Also the weight room is a great place to work on the curves and muscles of your body! Then the pool room! Known as relaxing city, where all your stress runs wild! If you could do anything today, I recoment heading up to the beautiful Fallbrook YMCA! Remember, all your dreams come true at the YMCA! Also, the YMCA could change your life, keep that in mind when you sitting on the couch eating chips and drinking soda!

Voice/Word Choice: 4

4-4-4-4

In this response about the Fallbrook YMCA, the wording is expressive and engaging and conveys a strong sense of the writer throughout the essay. A strong voice, with many personal observations about the YMCA, is well-suited for the purpose and audience, and the descriptive language is specific, precise and varied throughout the response. Numerous vivid words and phrases are used effectively and the reader clearly understands why the Fallbrook YMCA is important to the writer.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Gathering

The Football Games

There are many places where people gather, may it be a small gathering or a huge one. Almost every friday night in November there is a huge gathering of tiger fans. Old and young they all come to the college to support our high school football team. All the sights, sounds, and the rush of emotions I get when I go to the games is unforgettable. There are many sights to see when you are in the crowded bleachers. The sounds are always loud and most of the time cheerful. I always seem to have too many emotions to count. The sight of the the football team rushing onto the field almost seems to give me goosebumps.

As you walk up the bleachers you see many tiger fans. It's like walking into a sea of orange. The cheerleaders come out and rally up the fans. I love seeing our team make an amazing pass and make a touchdown. This really makes the fans go wild with excitement. Many fans also like to make beautiful and very creative posters, which is always fun to see. Another interesting sight to see is the band conductor waving his hands in the air as the dancers come out on the field and as the band plays in sync.

The loud and happy cheers echo through the bleachers. The sound of the band playing "The Eye of the Tiger" gets everyone pumped up for the fourth quarter. The cheerleaders shout out some rhyming cheers as the fans echo them. The loud buzz of the buzzer lets everyone know the the fourth quarter is about to begin. As the opposing team makes a touchdown and pulls ahead I can hear the sad sighs of many fans. Then as soon as we pull ahead the band plays a cheerful tune and the fans return to cheering on their winning team. With the cheering of the fans and the cheerleaders dancing you can see and feel the excitement in the air.

The feeling I get whenever I'm at a game is absolutely thrilling. I experience a rush of emotions as I stand in the cold metal bleachers. I can feel the bleachers shake under me as fans jump up and down in excitement. The cold wind chills me to the bone, but it's all worth it. Many games end in defeat and you can feel a sadness hang over the field. There are also times where we win in a landslide and it seems like nothing can bring us down. Even if we loose I can still smile because I've had a wonderful and exciting night with my friends. You can never loose as long as you keep your head up and have a smile on your face.

Overall the sights, sounds, and emotions I feel really make going to football games an experience to remember. The sight of several football players rushing onto the field is a sight to behold. Cheering and the beautiful music played by the band fills the air. Excitement is heard by the cheers and seen in every fans eyes. I will never forget the way I felt at the all tiger games. The bleachers on a cold November night might be the coolest place to gather, but it's not where you gather it's who you come together with.

Voice/Word Choice: 3

4-4-3-4

In this response about going to the football games, the wording is generally expressive and conveys a certain sense of the writer and why the games are a special gathering place. The voice is generally appropriate for the purpose and audience, and the language is generally specific and varied. A few vivid words and phrases adequately describe the football games and the writer's experience while attending the event.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

A high school football game is probably the best place for people to gather. Every where you go there is always so much to see, hear, and smell. These things are my favorite at a high school football game.

Some of the best sights are seen at a high school football game. There is the 8 foot tall steel gates at the front entrance. Two ticket booths with bricks forming a small room on the inside are to the left and the right of the front gate. Hard concrete lays a path to the seating section for the people rooting for the home team. The home team bleachers are just cold metal with a big white concrete bricks building in the middle for where the announcer sits. There is the sight of people jumping up and down as the home team runs in bursting through a paper banner of their logo.

Whoops and hollers are heard as the home team dashes across the field to go take their bench. The cling clang of feet against the metal on the stands. The sounds of kids screaming and the principals yelling at the kids to stop messing around and take a seat. There is the shouts as the people working the concession call out orders for the customers. The fizzling as soda is opened. Then there is the loud booming voice as the announcer says the starting line up for the home team. Yelling of the quarterback is heard as he calls the play and hikes the ball. The slamming of the players tackling one another. The horrid screams as one player lies on the field in pain holding whatever hurts. The silence of the crowd as people begin to notice what happened. Then the cheers and claps as he walks or limps back onto the bench. These are just some of the sounds heard at a football game.

The next best thing about football games are the smells. There is the smell of freshly popped popcorn with fattening butter on top. The smells of pops being drank. Juicy hamburgers and hot dogs are all around the stadium. Then there is the smell of the chocolate smell as hot coco is made on a cold fall day. The odor of the players as they sweat through their jerseys after a hard game fought. Then the smells of gas and smoke as cars heat up and drive away from the school and go back home to enjoy the rest of the evening.

As you can see these are just few things that make a high school football game the best place to gather. Whether you go to watch the game or spend time with your friends you are sure to have a good time thanks to all these senses. Hopefully these sights, smells, and sounds will always be there.

Voice/Word Choice: 3

3-3-3-3

In this response about a high school football game, the wording is generally expressive and conveys a certain sense of the writer. The voice is generally appropriate for the purpose and audience, and the language is generally specific and varied. Some vivid words and phrases adequately describe the football game, but a more specific, precise and engaging description would be required for a higher score. The reader has a general understanding of why the football games are the best place to gather for the writer.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

People gather at many different places, one of these places is at a basket-ball game. At a basket ball game, there are so many things you see, hear, and smell.

At a basket-ball game you see several things. You see the score board, high on the wall, on both sides of the gym, so everyone in the crowd can see them. The score board has a place for the home team's score and for the guest's team score. It also has a place where it counts down the time left in each game. Also, at a basket ball game, you see the teams playing the game. You see the plain colors of their jerseys and the big number on them. You observe the moves the players take to get across the court. You also hear many things at a basket ball game.

While at a basket ball game, you hear many things. You hear the crowds cheering and talking among themselves. You hear the buzzer go off marking the end of the game. You can hear the refs blowing their whistle stating that the player can shoot the free throw. Which makes you feel different emotions.

When you're at a basket ball game, you might feel multiple emotions. When one of the players is about to shoot a free throw, you could feel anxious to know if they are going to make it or not. If they make the shot, you might feel a sense of blissfulness, but if they don't make it you could feel disappointed and sad.

When at a basket ball game, there are multiple sights, sounds, and feelings. It gets really loud at times, but that's okay because the teams need cheering on.

Voice/Word Choice: 2

2-3-2-3

In this response about a basketball game, the wording is occasionally expressive and conveys a limited sense of the writer. Descriptive language is only occasionally, precise and varied, with few vivid words and phrases used to describe the event. The voice is sometimes inappropriate for the purpose, and more sensory details are needed so that the reader can clearly picture it, and understand why the writer chose this place as a gathering place.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

The place I see the most gathering is at Walmart. When I first come in the sound of carts wheels go by and i can hear everyone talking and I see the massive store, but I am only looking at the front of the store. When I start to pass by the food section I get this whiff of something sweet that makes me drift in its sweet smelling aroma. I ask a woman wearing a nice violet coat that looked so soft and fluffy that I thought it had to be made from a foxes, or cats. "Were is that sweat smell coming from"? I asked. She said in a soft voice like silk "In the main section it is free sample day". I said "thank you" and went to the main section, but I had to go home.

Voice/Word Choice: 2

2-1-2-2

In this somewhat brief response about Walmart, a limited sense of the writer is evident. Language is occasionally precise and varied in the description of the Walmart store. The voice is only sometimes appropriate for the purpose, and the reader has a limited idea as to why the store was chosen as a gathering place by the writer.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Today im going to tell you about a place people gather. Mine is my grandma house and it lots of fun you smell ribs pies chicken ham any thing you can think of when you are there every time we go over grandmas house we have fun and for some reason we always go in the back yard and we play on the trampoline ad when dinner is done we go eat and then we have things where we find money and all sorts of things and Itemsand thats my story about grandmas house

we used to do all that stuff before she past away

Voice/Word Choice: 1

2-1-1-1

The wording in this response about grandma's house is inexpressive and lifeless, conveying little sense of the writer. The language is neither specific or precise nor varied and vivid words or phrases are missing. The voice is inappropriate for the purpose and the reader has little idea why the house is a gathering place.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Ding! The bell rings at my junior high school, and I see others rushing to get to class. A place I go to often is my school. I don't easily forget the sights, sounds, or smells at my school.

Voice/Word Choice: 1

1-1-1-1

The wording in this very brief essay about the writer's school conveys little sense of the writer. Language is neither specific or precise, nor varied. Vivid words or phrases are lacking and the voice is inappropriate for the purpose. This minimal response fails to demonstrate any evidence of control in the voice/word choice domain.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Home Sweet Rover

Out of all the places in the world, Start Over Rover has to be my favorite for sure! In small town Hastings, Nebraska was the beginning of Start Over Rover. The second you enter through the glass doors you already know this is a place that changes lives forever! From all the rooms that are inside the building, to the sounds that make your ears hurt but in a good way, but don't forget about all the feelings that overjoy your heart. Start Over Rover is an amazing place that has so many adorable animals inside waiting to find their forever home. No matter which room you are in you will always see how much effort goes into taking care of the animals.

From the outside of the building it may look very tiny, but once you walk inside you see that we have lots of space. In the building we have many rooms, many filled with four-legged friends. Once you walk into the building you see the three main cat rooms, for all of our feline friends that are healthy enough to roam the room when they get the chance. As you keep walking you enter our main lobby that is very open to all with a few of our fuzzy critters roaming in the free space. In the lobby there are three doors, one just off to the left of one of our cat rooms. That is the bathroom with walls of teal blue that catch your eye the second you spot it. Among the wall there is many pictures of cats and dogs with hilarious captions. After exiting the bathroom you are put back into the lobby. The lobby has two more doors that lead to some more fuzzy friends. One door has a clear window in it so you can see straight into what we call the office. If you go in through there you might see two desks, two more doors, a few chairs, and our office dog, Sparky. On the right you will see a door with a glass window that is almost the size of the door. Going out that door you would enter our ISO dog yard, just one of the four yards that Start Over Rover has. Once you go back inside and into the office a wooden brown door is just straight ahead. Walking towards the room you would see another window that peaks out into the lobby. This room is one more of our five cat rooms, although this room in particular doesn't get used as often. As you reenter the office there is a room just straight ahead for leads only. If you are lucky enough to go in with a leader you can see that it is a hallway with many more rooms, a nursery, laundry room, intake, cat ISO, and dog ISO. The laundry room has a door that leads outside to the same yard the office does. The hallway is a peach color, so it brings some color into the building. Going down the hall you will see the many rooms that are just one part of Start Over Rover. Once you reach the end you would walk out into the garage. Off to the left is a door that leads to the big dog yard. Once you enter the yard you can see why it would be for big dogs. Two metal doors are on the opposite wall to the building that lead you to the big dog room. Along both walls you would see five by seven feet long kennels that belong to the big dogs down at Start Over Rover. Once you reach the other door you would enter a room that is for our small dogs. On all four walls there are four by four foot long kennels and a door that leads to their own yard. Also there is a door that leads to the laundry room, which is where all the animals' blankets get washed up, along with their bowls for food and water. In the laundry room there is a small kitchen where leads, volunteers can keep some food and drinks. Then you head out the brown wooden door and you are back in the main lobby. Through out the whole building no matter where you are you will always hear something.

Throughout the whole building you will rarely enter a room that doesn't have some sort of sound that echoes through your ears. In the lobby you might hear people talking about adoptions, volunteering, donations, or the next event. If you stand in the office you might hear barking, phones ringing and meows. The cat rooms are always filled with meows from all the cats inside. Barks escape the many mouths of dogs that are all over the building. In the laundry room you might hear running water, the spinning of the drier, or dishes being washed. Although there are many sounds in Start Over Rover you still feel the same emotion when you first entered the building.

From the second you enter the building all your emotions get scattered. From seeing all these animals with no homes you might feel sad, but happy because now they have a temporary home. The building brings joy to many because of all the things the people have done to keep the building up and running. A lot of hard work and dedication goes into the work down at Start Over Rover to keep the animals there and to keep them safe. Never do you experience a dull emotion at Start Over Rover. It always has something to keep your heart wide open.

Start Over Rover is my favorite place to be in the whole world. It is a place where many lives are changed. At Start Over Rover you see many rooms, animals, and pieces of random things. The sound that breaks all silence is never going to leave your mind after you hear all the animals down there. But don't forget the emotions that scramble around as you see all the animals who have temporary homes just waiting for someone to come take them away to their forever home. Start Over Rover is just an amazing place to be with all the amazing things to see, hear, and feel. The rough beginnings turn into purr-fect endings.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 4

4-4-4-4

Sentences vary in length and structure throughout this response about an animal shelter. Phrasing consistently sounds natural and conveys meaning. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are consistently correct.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

There are many people on the planet and many places that they gather at. They gather in many different areas such as gyms, cafeterias, schools, auditoriums, parks, and sporting events. People gather for many different reasons as well. One of my favorite places to gather and associate with people is at an Honor Band.

At an honor band there are many different things that you can see, such as a large tuba. The tuba is one of the biggest brass instruments there. You can also see the metallic, slender flutes. Flutes are some of the smallest woodwind instruments, right next to the piccolo, which is a miniature flute, just up an octave. You may also see a large clarinet section, due to the fact that many clarinetists audition to get in the honor band. Clarinets are very pretty compared to most instruments mainly because of their black body with silver keys, very uniform I believe. A very common thing you may see are drums. They have many different drums of many different sizes and positions. There are also many different colored drums, which makes the drums quite unique. Furthermore, you will also see a selection of trumpet players. Trumpets are very shiny and are used in most military based songs along with drums.

In Addition, the sound at an honor band is quite remarkable. My favorite sound in the whole world you could say. In the beginning of practice session you may hear the steady tick, tick, tick of the metronome counting you off, but then, when the conductor raises his baton it is like an ocean of sound engulfing you. You play a steady B-flat scale on whole notes while the percussionists paradiddle. Then the fun begins, you get to start playing the songs assigned for the concert. Melodic pieces arranged by some of the world's greatest composers, such as Eric Whitacre and his glorious song *Lux Aurumque*, meaning "Light and Gold". In songs such as *Lux* the sound is supposed to crunch and have a dark, scary sound led by the brass eventually resolving into a happy light sound but ending in a dark sound again. Sliding parts made it the perfect piece of music for the concert at the end. Honestly I imagine that the sound is the closest thing to heaven there is on earth.

How does it feel? Better than anything else in the whole world. You can feel the drums pulsating deep into your veins. Basically you're swept away. Before the song you feel like some helpless fool but at the end you're no longer lost in a swarm of bees. You can play how you feel, put all emotion into the instrument, it makes you feel good again. It feels so great to play what words alone can't express. Nobody is going to judge you either, they are too busy channeling their emotion as well. The best part of the honor band experience is the feeling that you are good enough. Out of the hundreds of instrumentalists you were worthy to play in the section of your instrument. Drowned away in all the playing, once the conductor finally closes the song the most amazing thing happens. The people stand. The people stand up and they scream in approval, scream for more, they love the sound so. They clap until their hands hurt and then they sit. They sit and wait because you're not finished. You still have more music to play.

Consequently, at the end of the concert you feel different. You don't walk out slouching with your head low, you don't drag your feet. Something about you has changed on the inside out. You're not scared because you survived. You survived the emotion, the wave of it. You weren't taken away, you could withstand it. You held your ground and added how you felt to the wave making it bigger swallowing out all the bad things that you've ever felt. You then exit with shoulders back, head held high, and instrument in hand ready to take on the next challenge the world throws at you equipped with weapon of choice ready to blow your troubles away.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 4

4-4-4-4

Sentences vary in length and structure throughout this response about an honor band. Phrasing consistently sounds natural and conveys meaning. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are consistently correct.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Many people join at their house or at the mall, but the exciting place is New York, for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. People laughing and talking, getting all pumped up for what they are about to see. Everyone lined up miles and miles out all just in line to see the parade. Little kids laughing with their families and everyone is just bitter cold, with little gusts of wind blowing in their faces as they stand still all bundled up in winter coats. The floats are about to come out, just a little bit longer and the fun will begin and the parade will be live on T.V. for everyone to see at home.

From Jazz to pop to country, music is always playing for the great audience that is standing out for hours in the frigid cold. As the jingle bells are ringing for donations for Christmas, everyone is giving money rapidly. Everyone is laughing and talking with friends and family, having a wonderful time. When news reporters come up to people and ask them questions, people are racing over to get onto T.V. The marching band strolls across the stream of the street before the actual floats come by. The instrument sounds are ricocheting around the whole block. As the floats come out many famous singers are singing on top of the floats, as the fans scream for joy.

The camera crew zooming by every single person, to get on T.V. Watching thousands of people jump for joy as the floats finally come, decorated so beautifully it is worth it to get on camera for heartful memories. The news reporters are filming every single bit of the parade and crew members and getting interviewed every second. Up in the baby blue sky you see gigantic hot air balloons as the real best known movie or T.V show characters, with the crew workers walking slowly on the rocky, hard concrete, with the strings attached to the balloon. Live musicals are playing for the whole audience and the performance is astounding from what the front row people see. Singing as loud as they can to perform a great show for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, and having an awarded applause at the end of the fine musicals.

BBQ coming from down the street, swifting through the air as the floats are slowly coming down. Fresh air fills the area with joy, to know that it is a wonderful day. Many people grabbing a snack from concession stands. Getting pretzels slathered in hot cheese is making your nose burst. From different places in the world, people are put next to others that have smells that fill the air with grief, because of their strong cologne or strong perfume.

Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is a wonderful place to be with friends and family on a holiday, where you are giving. Everyone laughing and cheering for the famous floats that come down the stream every Thanksgiving Day. Despite the coldness, the floats are perfectly lined up and ready to go. The musical singers are getting prepared and ready to perform a great show. Talking about how excited people are the audience is all ready to see an amazing show. Many people from all over the world come for this one day of the year for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 3

4-3-3-3

Sentences generally vary in length and structure in this response about the Thanksgiving Day Parade.

The sentences are usually correct and the fragment and run-on errors do not confuse the reader.

Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are usually correct and a few errors do not distract the reader. Phrasing generally sounds natural. Fewer sentence construction errors would be required for a higher score.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

Choose one place you go where people gather. Think of the sights, sounds, feelings, smells, and/or tastes you experience there.

Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

" The Mall "

"Oh my god! I love my new outfits!!" The noise of buzzing kids and over excited teenage girls yelling, the smell of delicious meals and the attraction of the place makes me feel anxious and delighted to be there. The mall, a place where so many people gather.

The first thing that attracts your attention in the mall is the people enjoying their tasty and delicious meals at the food court. Also the huge dome in the ceiling that's made of glass, which looks amazing, clean, spotless, and a great view, the sky, clouds, and birds. I love it because it brings the sunshine in and I love the warm feeling of the sun hitting on me and also makes the place bright because of the sun. A spot where the sun reflects on is the floor, it's shiny and glossy, as you walk in it may look slippery, but it really isn't. The shape of this mall is round as a sphere, you see the little kids yelling, laughing and running like horses in circles around the stairs and elevators, disturbing the people and running in to them.

Being in the mall is very loud and noisy, you can clearly hear the teenage girls excited and yelling of how happy they are with the brand new clothes they just bought. As you near the food court you hear the timers go off in the ovens of pizza that's ready, bringing a delicious smell, or bread heating up at Subway, and the " sizzle " of oil on the hot pans that may be cooking fries, hamburgers at the Hamburger Place. The noise of colorful paper and plastic bags from many different stores, such as Rue21, Aeropostale, Jcp, and from the other stores around make a lousy, wrinkly sound as their being carried. Voices of many people, crying babies, to adults fill up the mall of loudness, so many sounds to hear from.

After a while of shopping, the smell of food makes you get really hungry as a bear waking up from it's hibernation. Well, it's time to try some of the variety and yummy meals the workers cook for you to try. Different smells in the food court, of Chinese food, sandwiches, pizza and hamburgers. In the Chinese food place, one of my favorite meals is chicken with broccoli and rice, even though I'm not a vegetable person I love the way the broccoli tastes like, more like a sweet taste, or I either choose to mein that's like spaghetti. At the pizza place my favorite flavor is cheese with no other topping, especially when it's very cheese, like when you take a bite and the cheese stretches out long enough that you end up cutting it with your fingers. Another food to choose from is hamburgers, I usually just order a Whopper Jr. with my medium fries and coke with lots of ice in it to refresh me.

The feeling in the mall is exciting and delighting. Seeing all the people cheered up spending time with their friends and family gathering up together makes you feel the same and do the same. Like the brand Nike, " Just Do It " Having the opportunity to shop in many different stores, having variety of food to eat from, spending time together, and meeting new people at the mall is fascinating.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 3

4-3-3-3

Sentences generally vary in length and structure, and are usually correct, in this response about the mall. Phrasing generally sounds natural. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling are usually correct, and the fragment and run-on errors that are evident do not confuse the reader.

People gather at many places. This could be the cafeteria or gym at school, a park or sporting event, a room in your home, or any other place people get together.

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Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Mostly people gather at sporting events. Its usually for siblings, sons, daughters, or just come to watch. In my family we go watch my bother play football. His school _____ is 8 wins and 1 loses. if team was losing they would just scream at the top of there lungs. Yell at referes to stop throwin the flag. I remeber how my use cheer for the team when cheer so loud I thought to my self whats wrong with her I used to say in my mind "its just football" but if I ever said that she may yell at me.

Usually when every one cheers I stand and cheer looking stupid when every boos I boo not eveing knowing whats going on. Sometimes when large guy is standing I just want to say "hey buddy can you sit down" but he might say with his deep voice why don't you shut up!" Then I imagin him punching me in the face with his hard rocky fist like it was nothing. At half time I go use the restroom and go get somes snacks. Then this guy cuts in line but no one says anything an then he orders like its a like all you can eat resturant spending 10 dollars on snacks. When I order I ask for "nachos and a soda please" that order was a whole five dollars. The nachos were of course 3 dollars but 1 liter of soda was 2 dollars it was an outrage most of the people yell screaming!"

Why do the soda 2 dollars when I could go to the and get one for 75 cents!" a man said. so most people just sneak soda in there wifes or girlfriends purses because the sign says " No outside food or drink this is a very esstinal note!" Then every body just ignores it. One time I saw somone with a footlong sandwich taking sneaky bites. Then they got caught and I said in my mind "suckers" if I had said that outloud they my jumped over the seat cusing and slaping me across the face if I did the next step for them would be jail and I would sue for 100,000 dollars and my face in the news paper saying "local boy sues for child abuse for 100,000 dollars!" Like that would ever happen. If it did I would of just blown it away like it was 5 dollars.

Sometimes when you have that wierd craving you just go buy it then you relize I should of bought a hot dog or something. I hate that and then i don't want eat what I have. By third qaruter the the game starts to get serious. Every one praying that the team will win adn go to state. then when theres a flag it starts to get quite and my mom say while its very "aw come on tell us the penalty!" So I thought everyone was looking at me and I say in my mind "this is such a drag."

When the game is over _____ pervayles and takes the win. But probably the worst part is cleaning up after the fans. I bef those stands are dirty. full of popcorn empty chip bags and nacho trays. they must hate cleaning there. So as we ride home my parents and grandparents talk about the game. Like they were on "Sports Center but I just fall asleep.

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Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

One place I really enjoy going to is a soccer field. Its a very peaceful place for me, i relax my self when i play soccer. More relaxed when I play with my family. Whats your favorite place to be when you get tpogether as a family?.

One thing I will talk about is how people can get together as a family. One way that I will be talk about is that when want to meet up with my cousins I ask them to go tomy soccer game. Just like how I will be talking about. A soccer field is a big wide land from earth that is mostly flat, even has concrete paths. Full of cars & familys/people that go to the soccer field. But a soccer field is more like a place were your children can have fun, and have a big win victory in their soccer game. Its not lways two teams facing eachother. There're many more teams that play. Maybe about 10 teams, or later on about 5 teams or maybe more. you can also see other teams play too, its for every one to enjoy it.

Another thing I will talk about today is, about the concession stands. The best yummi part of a soccer field is a concession stand. Its full of foods and drinks. It has a counter full of snacks often like fifty cent foods like chocalte bars or maybe like fruit snakes. so when you go to a soccer field try out their concession stands if they are open. They concessin stands dont always have food and drinks, they can also have soccer balls for sale. You cant also maybe get a soccer shirt. coceasion stands are very useful when your hungry or when you dont have nothing to do. Buy a drink or food, get your self a soccer ball and start shooting for goal.

The final thing I will talk about today is about the sounds you would hear in a soccer field. When I have a soccer game I mostly hear our parents and uncles cheering for us. Their lots of sounds you often hear in a huge soccer field. Some sounds you always hear are the players passing the ball to each other with a first touch. Another one is when a player shoots the ball as hard as he can and hits the post. And the last one is when parents cheer for you every single time. The cheer every time you have the ball or when you are close to the goal area. They scream out " Shoot!! " but in a exciting way.

So thats a place I really know about when I talk about a soccer field because its a place that i go to every single time. It could be indoor soccer field or outdoor soccer field. So I hope you enjoyed this story I made about the soccer field, concession stands, and most of all the sounds.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 2

2-3-2-2

Sentences seldom vary in length and structure in this response about a soccer field. Phrasing occasionally sounds unnatural. Fragments and run-ons sometimes confuse the reader and grammar, punctuation and spelling errors may also distract the reader.

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Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

the smell of the gym is smelly sometimes and it hot in there and sometimes cool and the players bodies sweating from playing the other team . the sound of people cheering,yelling ,laughing ,screaming the basketball bouncing the score brod buzzing.you can see the players stopping the other players from scoring the point and the basket ball bouncing and you can see people screaming yelling cheering and the people throughing their arms in the air and sometimes you can tast the air or sombody else is perfume. you can feel the boncing and you can feel the floor bouncing under your feet.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 1

2-1-1-1

Numerous grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling errors distract the reader throughout this response about a gym. Many sentence construction errors confuse the reader, and phrasing sounds awkward and unnatural.

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Write an essay describing this place with sensory details so the reader can picture it and understand why you chose it.

Going to the pool.

do you have a fun place to hang out with your friends. Try going to the pool with all of your friends. it is a really fun place to hang out you can have trick contest, eat, see who the fastest swimmer is the pool is endless fun

i go pick up all of my friends then we walk to the pool. we get there and jump in right away because we cant wait to have contest and see who will win out of all of you.

Sentence Fluency / Conventions: 1

1-1-1-1

In this brief response about a pool, numerous fragments and run-ons cause confusion, and the grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling errors throughout the response distract the reader. Phrasing sounds awkward and unnatural.